# New Hampshire Children's Authors and Illustrators Available for School/Library Presentations

## **RICK AGRAN**

PO Box 245
Plymouth, NH 03264
603-536-9050
semidemiquaver@gmail.com
Author

Description: Rick Agran works with the NH Humanities Council and the NH State Council on the Arts to lead book discussions for "What is NH Reading?" and as a poet in the schools in the Arts in Education program. He will also do author talks, poetry reading and writing.

Audience: pre-school to adult

Length: from one hour to month-long residency

Fee: negotiable

# **ROBERTA BAKER**

376 Sanborn Road Tilton, NH 03276 603-286-4051

robaker@fcgnetworks.net

Author

\*Please note: phone is best way to contact Author

Description: In her program, the author covers the stages of writing, illustrating, editing and publishing a picture book from idea through final product, and includes time for questions and answers. Workshops get children started on a writing/illustrating project that they can finish at home or at the library.

Audience: K- grade 4 Length: 45 minutes - hour

Fee: \$150-\$200, depending on travel time

# **JULIE BRILLHART**

12 Perry Avenue
Concord, NH 03301
603-225-4776
juliebrillhart@yahoo.com
Author and Illustrator

Description: The author reads her latest book, describes how she writes and

illustrates a book, takes questions, and shows original illustrations.

Audience: K- grade 2 Length: 20-30 minutes Fee: \$75/classroom

## MARYANN COCCA-LEFFLER

14 Holt Road Amherst, NH 03031 603-672-8991 mcleffler@aol.com www.maryanncoccaleffler.com

Author and Illustrator

Description: The presentation is based on the theme of the author-illustrator's most recent book. The powerpoint slideshow both excites and educates, inspiring the audience to create their own art and stories. Through the presentation "The Story Behind the Story," the author-illustrator shows how a book is developed from concept to finished book. She also shares her storyboards, sketches and paintings and she makes a drawing for the library/school to keep. The presentation ends with a question-answer period.

Audience: Any age

Length: Please contact presenter Fee: \$1,000/day for three sessions

## **TABITHA JEAN D'AGATA**

25 Alice Avenue Hooksett, NH 03106 603-647-9993 tabadoo@aol.com www.thesavvyclick.com/TJean.htm Author

Description: The following workshops are available: A Story-Planning Event; Release the Muse! and A Wordy Recipe! Please see website for

details and more information.

Audience: K-grades 8; mixed ages

Length: tailored to meet the needs of libraries and schools

Fee: Negotiable

## CHRIS DEMAREST

Po Box 58 Meriden, NH 03770 603-469-3095 www.demarestdraws.com Author and Illustrator

Description: The powerpoint presentation takes the audience through real life research and subsequent art as it relates to his books (such as

*Hurricane Hunters*). The author also provides various equipment for hands-on discussion.

Audience: Ages 7 and up

Length: 50 minutes. (up to four presentations/day)

Fee: \$900/day; \$500 half-day

#### **MURIEL L. DUBOIS**

Author

7 Colby Ct. Box 156
Bedford, NH 03110
603-472-8741
Apprencticeshpbks@aol.com
www.murieldubois.com/

Description: The author's books have a strong focus on New Hampshire history.

Mrs. Dubois will do up to three one-hour presentations of any of the following topics per day: 1)The Life of Sarah Hale; 2) Abenaki Captive: How a Picture Book Became a Novel; 3) What Do You Mean I have to Write it Again? A Whiner Learns to Revise; and 4)Pajamas, Tea, Dogs, and Deadlines: The Writing Life. Each talk is presented either as a Power Point or overhead program with some audience participation. See website for more details.

Audience: Grades 3 and up. Groups should be about 50 people--2 to 3

classrooms per session.

Length: 45 minutes to one hour

Fee: \$150 per session

#### **DAVID ELLIOTT**

228 Kearsage Mountain Road Warner, NH 03278 603-456-2714 delliott@conket.com www.davidelliottbooks.com Author

Description: The author covers a variety of topics such as writing work and revision; the collaborative process of book making; and writing

exercises. Please visit website for more details.

Audience: varies Length: 50 minutes

Fee: Contact school visit coordinator; see website for information.

#### JENNIFER A. ERICSSON

50 South Street, Apt 2F Concord, NH 03301 603-226-7256 JAERICSSON@aol.com Author

Description: Authors are Real People--Geared for young children and their parents, this 45 minute program uses a storytime format to inform and entertain. Personal information is shared, several of the author's picture books are read, and all questions are answered. From Idea to the Printed Page--This one-hour workshop for elementary school-aged children (grades 1-4) explains the process of how an idea in your head becomes a book in your hands. The workshop includes a group writing activity and time for questions.

Audience: See above Length: See above

Fee: library programs: \$125 each

elementary school visits: \$650/day.

Author will do up to four one-hour presentations of From Idea to the Printed Page in one day for grades 1 & up. Kindergarten is usually a much shorter and more casual program with Author reading a couple of her picture books to individual classes.

#### **RALPH FLETCHER**

PO Box 855
Durham, NH 03824
fletcher17@earthlink.net
www.ralphfletcher.com
Author

Description: The author does three or four presentations, focusing on his writing process, especially the writer's notebook. He shows the audience how he rewrites his work. The author also reads from his works and does some storytelling, ending with a question and answer session.

Audience: K-grade 5; middle school Length: 40 minutes; shorter for K-1

Fee: \$1,500/day

## MARIE HARRIS

PO Box 203 Barrington, NH 03825 603-664-7654 marie@marieharris.com www.marieharris.com

#### Author

Description: The author's school programs involve participatory writing

workshops and interactive discussion centering on her recent books: *G is for Granite* and *Primary Numbers*. While these books—a NH alphabet book and NH number book—are written, respectively, with grades 3-5 and grades K-2 in mind, there are many discussion points suitable for older students (e.g. the making of a book; research; poetry and prose styles, etc.)

Audience: varies Length: one hour

Fee: \$750/day (four sessions); some negotiation possible.

## KAREN BUSCH HOLMAN

PO Box 155
Andover, NH 03231
603-735-4207
iholman@tds.net
galleryatthepoplars.com
Illustrator

Description: The program is an art lesson teaching children how a book is illustrated. The class first writes their own class poem, which is done several weeks before the illustrator's visit. Then, the illustrator typesets and illustrates the poem. During the visit, the illustrator walks through the sketching phase, teaching the class little tricks to help them draw better. The illustrator provides pastels and works with the class to color their illustrations. Each child leaves with his/her own drawing.

Audience: K-grade 5 Length: 55-75 minutes

Fee: \$675 (includes the \$30 lab fee for pastels)

# **ERICK INGRAHAM**

PO Box 321
Jaffrey, NH 03452
603-532-5678
ingraham@erickingraham.com
www.erickingraham.com
Illustrator

Description: The illustrator discusses how he starts a book and goes over all of the steps to illustrating the book. He offers interesting behind-the-scenes stories and shows things that few people get to see, like translated versions of his books. He also presents a slide show that has a vocal soundtrack with music and sound effects. After

answering questions, the Illustrator presents the grand finale: the live impromptu drawing session. This is an entertaining demonstration of how he gets early story ideas onto paper quickly. See website for samples.

Audience: ages 6-11 Length: 50 minutes

Fee: libraries—one talk: \$350 plus travel

elementary schools: two talk minimum: \$650 plus travel. For three

talks in one day, add \$200; for a fourth talk, add \$100.

# **MARTY KELLEY**

7 East Lull Place New Boston, NH 03070 603-487-9918 martykelley@hotmail.com Author and Illustrator

Description: This is a fun, high-energy program that explains the writing and

illustrating process. The presentation includes lots of samples of

work, audience participation and drawing demonstrations.

Audience: Grades 1-6 Length: one hour

Fee: \$750 for three one-hour programs; \$250 for one program

#### **TRUE KELLEY**

79 Old Denny Hill Road Warner, NH 03278 603-456-2190 true@conknet.com Author and Illustrator

Description: One program focuses on how books are made and how words and pictures work together. With audience input, the Author writes a story. The other program explores drawing and demonstrates cartooning tricks. The audience then helps to make an illustration that tells a story.

Audience: K-grade 6

Length: 20 minutes to one hour

Fee: \$800/day; \$300 for single presentation; travel expenses negotiable

## **BETH KROMMES**

310 Old Street Rd.
Peterborough, NH 03458
603-924-8790
beth@bethkrommes.com
www.bethkrommes.com

#### Illustrator

Description: The format of the presentation will include: how the illustrator found her path as an artist, the process of illustrating a book from start to finish, a demonstration, and question-and-answer time. The illustrator gears her talk around a particular book that she has illustrated that works best with a subject area of special interest to the class. Often, the illustrator leaves behind a project for the class to complete with the teacher.

Audience: any age

Length: 30 to 60 minutes depending on age

Fee: \$1,000/day for four presentations in a school

## SY MONTGOMERY

115 Antrim Road Box 127 Hancock, NH 03449 sv@millmoss.mv.com Authorwire.com Author

Description: The author does slide show lectures suitable for assemblies as well as classroom visits. The slide show topics include the following: life as an explorer-author; Encantado: exploring the life of the pink Amazon dolphin; 18,000 slithering snakes and how to study them; the tarantula scientist; search for the golden moon bear; and spell of the tiger.

Audience: Grades 4-8 Length: 45 minutes

Fee: \$1,500 (negotiable)

# **CYNTHIA G. NEALE**

574 Main Street Hampstead, NH 03841 (603) 329-4249 (603) 548-6740 (cell) Neale@metro2000.net www.cynthianeale.com Author/Presenter

Description: The author conducts educational events at schools, libraries, bookstores, and other venues to inspire and challenge students to learn about hunger, immigration, and to create their own American Dream. Author dresses in immigrant clothing and brings in a live red hen, 'Miss Maggie,' and describes life in Ireland during The Great Hunger, 1845-1850. Author is available for a short

presentation with a reading or longer presentation that includes a monologue in costume with props, discussion, dvd excerpts of immigrant vignettes from the American Immigration Law Foundation, and activities, such as journal making to signify the importance of treasuring words. The author encourages students to enjoy history and to learn about hunger and immigration, past and present. Author will also share about her daily writing life and read excerpts from her books.

Audience: Grades 4 to 8

Length: flexible Fee: Negotiable

## **DENISE ORTAKALES**

711 Shore Drive
Laconia, NH 03246
603-528-2168
denise@ortakales.com
www.deniseortakales.com
Author and Illustrator

Description: The program covers topics such as the process of writing and

illustrating children's books, where ideas come from, journaling, and

what it is like to be a professional illustrator.

Audience: All

Length: 30-60 minutes, depending on age and topic.

Fee: \$225 for one library session; \$500 for four school sessions.

## **MARY LYN RAY**

104 Frazier Brook Road So. Danbury, NH 03230 603-768-3266 (for use by librarians or teachers only) Author

Description: When the author visits a school, she wants to invite conversations about the mystery of story and the mysteries of writing. The author reads to and talks with the audience. The central things the author talks about are where stories come from, how they find a form, how a manuscript becomes a picture book, how it may feel to look at a piece of paper and not know what to write. The author will typically tell some of the stories she's written (or may be writing), something of how she writes and why she writes. She also wants to hear questions from the audience.

Audience: K-grade 5; middle school; high school; adult

Length: 30 minutes for Kindergarten groups; 45 minutes to one hour for other

groups

Fee: \$650 for a day (three groups)

#### STEVE SCHUCH

Night Heron Music 267 Center Road Hillsborough, NH 03244 603-464-4321 info@nightheron.com www.NightHeron.com Author, Musician and Storyteller

Description: Options include *The Author's Story; A Symphony of Whales; Songs & Tales Around the World; Music & Tales of Ireland; Parent/Educator Workshops; Artist Residencies*. See web site for full descriptions of these and other programs.

Audience: Ages 5 and up; see web site for further information.

Length: varies

Fee: Varies; contact author for specifics. Block booking and grants available.

#### JOHN STADLER

264 River Road Lyme, NH 03768 email@johnstadler.com johnstadler.com Author and Illustrator

Description: John Stadler's presentations are known for their humorous, educational and interactive qualities. Generally, each presentation consists of up to five parts:

- 1. John draws some characters from his books. (An easel with copious amounts of large paper and markers should be supplied for the visit.)
- 2. John shows how picture books and pop-up books are made from start to finish (idea, mock-up, printing and book form).
- 3. John demonstrates how to come up with ideas, actively involving the children in the process and drawing out their ideas on the spot.
- 4. If time and location permit, there can be a slide presentation.
- 5. Question and answers.

Audience: All ages, mostly K-grade 4

Length: 45 minutes

Fee: \$250-\$1300, depending on program and distance